

ACADEMY

Newsletter

DEDICATED
TO SCIENTIFIC
RESEARCH AND
EDUCATION,
INSPIRING
RESPECT FOR
THE NATURAL
WORLD



Test yourself on your
natural history knowl-
edge – *Biodiversity
Resource Center*

Learn about form and
function, geographical
differences, and
potential uses of 1.6
million dried plant
specimens – *Botany*

See live insects and the
diversity of color and
pattern among insects –
Entomology

The Academy is in the
news! See T.V. and
news clippings – *Public
Information*

See critters without
backbones (who are not
insects) and different
types of fossils, from
bones to footprints –
*Invertebrate Zoology
and Geology*



See a demonstration
of the skill needed
to prepare a reptile
specimen for the
collection – *Herpetology*

Touch a variety of
marine mammal bones –
*Ornithology and
Mammalogy*

THE ACADEMY RINGS IN SPRING
WITH MEMBERS OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, May 10 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

*C*ome discover the ultimate science adventure! When you go behind the scenes at the Academy, prepare to be amazed at every turn as you take this intimate journey through the world of science. It's your chance to meet the scientists and staff, view collections in our eight research departments and ask questions. It's our way of saying "thank you" to our members for your interest and support.



Start off the evening with the new exhibit of all that glitters: the Buccellati collection of gemstones and gold in the recently-refurbished Gem and Mineral Hall. Also lighting up the main floor, Science In Action and the "Kids from CAOS" with a special earth celebration puppet show at 6:30 p.m. You won't want

to miss Academy photographers Susan Middleton and David Liittschwager who will be on hand from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the "Witness" exhibit to talk with you and sign their book. This exhibit of distinctive and powerful portraits of threatened plants and animals closes May 14.

Come and enjoy the high-spirited Barbary Coast Cloggers in the auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Clogging was developed hundreds of years ago as a dance of immigrants in the Eastern United States. Clogging has remarkably diverse origins — from Native American, African as well as European dance traditions.

The Academy Store will be open for your shopping convenience, offering a free "Witness"

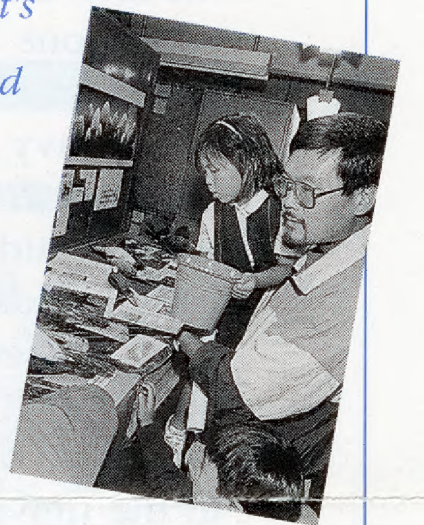
poster after \$25 in purchases. Enjoy dinner in the Academy's cafe, from 5:30 p.m. (allowing you to come in early to dine) to 7:30 p.m.

Three self-guided tours, upstairs, downstairs and the invertebrate zoology and geology wing (entering through Gem & Mineral Hall), will take you backstage through our research departments.

On your downstairs trek, check in at the education department to talk with staff and pick up information on what to do with the kids this summer, either through Camp Academy or Junior Academy classes. Also experience two delightful adult and family education demonstrations: Kathleen Hubbard will show you how to plait basketry materials into wonderful baskets, while Susan Tibbon will create elaborately painted spice boxes made out of citrus skins.

The staff has planned an exciting evening for you, so we hope you'll join us. Open house is an exclusive benefit for members only. This is the perfect time to invite your friends to become members and show them around.

Please consider a gift membership, which offers year-round benefits and helps support education and research at the Academy (see order form on back page).



Photos: Dong Lin



See the Night Sky Indoors

Current Sky Shows: Experience realistic simulations of the night sky and celestial events with the following sky shows. Tickets can be purchased a half hour before the show at the box office once inside the Academy. For sky watching information and detailed descriptions of shows, call the planetarium at 750-7141.

May Schedule

Sky Show / Description	weekday	weekend
Realm of the Galaxies / <i>their secrets</i>	2 p.m.	2 & 4 p.m.
Extremes / <i>cosmic record holders</i>	—	1 & 3 p.m.
StarTalk / <i>tour of the night sky</i>	—	noon
Touch the Stars / <i>a family show</i>	—	11 a.m.

For more information, please call 750-7141.

The Origins of Life

B. Dean Lecture: What planetary environments are necessary for the evolution of life? Various prebiotic models of early Earth suggest that life-supporting conditions may have existed as early as 4.4 billion years ago. But was early organic matter able to survive heavy bombardment of material left over from the formation of the solar system? Did such impacts actually aid the development of life by synthesizing compounds?

Dr. Sherwood Chang, chief of the planetary biology branch of NASA-Ames Research Center, studies the origin and distribution of organic matter and life in the universe. He is a noted authority on the synthesis of organic matter on prebiotic Earth.



ARTIST'S RENDITION OF EARTH'S EARLIEST ECOSYSTEM
3.5 BILLION YEARS AGO.

Tue., May 23 — 7:30 p.m.
Tickets, \$2 each

© For advance tickets, use order form. Tickets may be available on a standby basis. Please call 750-7141, for more information.
© This lecture concludes the Spring '95 Benjamin Dean Lecture Series. The fall series will be held September through December.

School Shows Provide Heavenly Knowledge

The Academy's Planetarium is doing its part to create the next generation of star gazers by providing special sky shows for school children.

The Planetarium puts on up to two shows each weekday morning during the academic year, in addition to the regular 2 p.m. public show. Three different sky shows cater to different grade levels. Cartoon characters such as Mr. Sun and Mr. Owl explain the sky's bright objects to preschoolers and kindergartners; older students play detective and follow the popular computer game character Carmen Sandiego, gathering clues to stop her intergalactic capers.

Appalachian Puppetry

Using wooden hand and rod puppets carved in the backwoods of Southwest Virginia, the Poor Puppet Theatre Company performs the mountain tale of "Wicked John," a feisty character whose legendary meanness gets him into heaps of trouble.

Sat., May 6 — 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.
(Auditorium)

Maidu Indian Basket

Denise Davis demonstrates coiling techniques of Maidu basket-weaving skills shared from family members and while growing up in North Carolina. The baskets are made of natural materials (bark, roots, grass) and feature symbolic designs.

Sat., May 13 — 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.
(Auditorium)

FOOD FOR THOUGHT



Examine the future of that most immediate and intimate of human needs — food. Tomorrow's Table, a

lively half-day symposium on Saturday, June 10, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., will provide food for thought about our own view of food and nutrition, and about critical economic and cultural issues involved in local and future global food production.

The afternoon will include three presentations spanning perspectives from the personal to the global. Beginning with a discussion of topics related to health, nutrition and personal decision making, we will move on to an examination of issues related to future agricultural production in California. The program will conclude with a vivid account of the complex interactions of the cultural, environmental and technological issues involved with the production of food worldwide.

Tomorrow's Table is sponsored by the Academy's anthropology department and the Rietz Food Technology Foundation. Ticket prices are \$20 for members and \$22 for nonmembers, and are available by mail order only. For more information, please call 750-7163.

ACADEMY



Bill Diebenow

Antarctic and the World

Explore this last frontier and one of the most beautiful in the world with John and Pam Diebenow and their satellite islands about Antarctica. The cruise includes penguins returning to ancient breeding grounds, seals rearing their chicks on cliffs, and whales and seals feasting on krill. The ship features 170-passenger *M.S. Hanseatic* of Germany, with luxurious outside staterooms with views, showers, a fleet of 14 Zodiacs, and a 180 degree panoramic view.

Jan. 22-Feb. 6
Cost: \$6,850-\$12,750 per person (includes airfare)



Clipper Cruiseline

Panama Canal aboard the *M.V. Clipper*. Explore the San Blas Islands and dugout canoes.

Dec. 19-31
Cost: from \$3,560 (double occupancy)

For more information and detailed itineraries, please call the travel agent.

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French Songs

Guitarist Simon Dray, who comes from the Bordeaux region of France, plays a medley of French songs, including a selection of his own original compositions as well as pieces by Jacques Brel.

Sat., May 20 — 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.
(Auditorium)

Explore cultural traditions from around the world. Free after general admission. Call 750-7164 for information.

TRAVEL



Falkland Islands

of the few truly pristine regions
McCosker. This awesome conti-
nd with life — millions of pen-
ng colonies, albatrosses and pe-
blooming with brilliant lichens,
krill. The recently built five-star,
fers luxuriously appointed, spa-
ews and full-size bathtubs and
nd an observation lounge with

(including air/land/sea from Miami)

Holiday Cruise to Costa Rica

This exploratory journey, with
guide Tom Daniel, will take you
o the luxuriant rain forests, de-
serted beaches and windswept
volcanic summits of Costa Rican
national parks and to the human-
made phenomenon of the
Yorktown Clipper. You also will
nd the Sambu River in Zodiac

ncy), plus airfare

eraries on these and other 1995 tours,
office at 750-7348.

Elizabeth Marshall Thomas At Herbst Theatre

Animal behavior expert and anthro-
pologist Elizabeth Marshall Thomas
has traveled the world doing ex-
tensive fieldwork in her efforts to
understand different species and
cultures. She has applied her an-
thropological experience to the
study of dogs and cats to produce
two enormously popular books:
The Hidden Life of Dogs and *The
Tribe of Tiger*. Thomas is currently
a research associate in animal be-
havior at the Laboratory of Orni-
thology at Cornell University.

She will be presented in conver-
sation with Dr. Philip Zimbardo
Thursday, May 18 at 8 p.m. in the
Herbst Theatre (401 S. Van Ness
Ave.). Tickets are \$12 members and
\$15 nonmembers. To order tickets,
please call City Box Office at 392-4400.

This concludes the California
Academy of Sciences' Conversations
& Readings at the Herbst Theatre
lecture series for 1995.

YOUNG AUDIENCES

Lily Cai — Chinese Dance

Families will delight in experi-
encing the exquisite dancing of
Lily Cai, a principal dancer
with the Chinese Opera House
for eight years. Cai explains
and performs numerous Chi-
nese folk and classical dances
complete with beautiful cos-
tumes and props. She is the
recipient of several choreogra-
phy grants, has performed for
the Ethnic Dance Festival and
the International Dance
Festival, and re-
cently collabo-
rated with Di-
mensions Dance
Theatre (African-jazz
dance) to create a new
dance form.

Sun., May 28 — 1 p.m.

This family series is presented in the
auditorium and is free after general
admission. Call 863-1719, for more
information.



Curators' Reception a R"EEL" Hit With Donors



Dong Lin

John
McCosker,
chair of
aquatic
biology,
capti-
vates
Acad-

emy donors with a display illustrating the diversity
of eels at the annual Curators' Reception. The
evening, centered around the theme "Diversity Is
the Spice of Life," featured a fascinating array of
specimens and artifacts from Academy collections,
slides of research expeditions from around the
world, scientific publications and the latest in
research data bases. The Curators' Reception is a
special benefit for members of the Academy's
curators', director's and president's giving circles.
Come join us! For information about becoming a
donor circle member and participating in next
year's Curators' Reception, please call Sally
Donnell in the development office at 750-7280.

ADULT & FAMILY EDUCATION

Colored Pastels and Natural Elements

Explore the exciting and popular media of colored
pastels as you create colorful landscape images with
instructor Vesta Kirby. We'll explore a variety of tech-
niques including layering color and experiment with
textured paper. A combination of indoor technique
sessions with outdoor fieldwork will be used. Appro-
priate for beginning and experienced artists.

May 6 & 7 — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Cost: \$85 members/\$95 nonmembers (does not include
materials)

Audubon Canyon Ranch and Point Reyes National Seashore

Guide Dan Murphy will lead a bus tour
through a number of bird habitats from the
urban corridor of San Francisco and east Marin,
through the agricultural and park lands of the west
Marin hills. You'll explore the Douglas fir forest,
eucalyptus woodlands and open fields for various resi-
dent land birds at Point Reyes National Seashore Head-
quarters. At nearby Five-Brooks Pond we'll see land
birds in the willows and water birds. At Bolinas Lagoon
and Audubon Canyon Ranch, after a leisurely lunch,
we'll take a hike to see nesting great egrets and great
blue herons. You also will have free time to explore.

May 13 — 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Cost: \$40 members/\$50 nonmembers (includes transpor-
tation and soft drinks)



In Search of Ancient Astronomies

Taught in Morrison Planetarium, instructor Mike
Bennett will introduce you to the amazing world of
archaeoastronomy. Archaeologists and astronomers
are uncovering more and more evidence that ancient
peoples developed a very sophisticated knowledge
of the heavens, and used that knowledge to develop
accurate calendars, foretell the seasons, and even
predict eclipses with 100 percent accuracy.

May 3-31 (4 Wed.) — 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Cost: \$60 members/\$70 nonmembers

For more information, contact the adult and family education
program at 750-7100.

THE
ACADEMY
STORE

Things To Remember ^{vs} Mother's Day is May 14

- 1.) Make mom breakfast in bed, 2.) Mow lawn and clean house, 3.) Make dinner reservations, 4.) Shop the Academy Store for: mother's day cards, beautiful T-shirts and vests, unique hand-crafted jewelry, and rain forest bath products



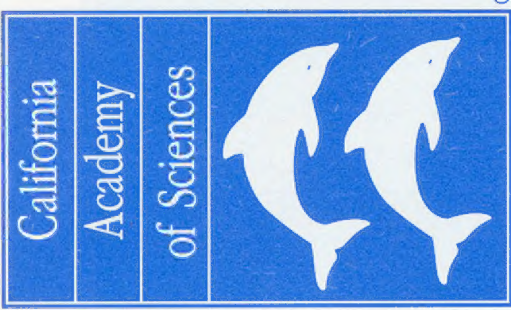
MAY						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	SPECIAL EXHIBITS "Buccellati: Artistry in Gemstones & Gold," opens May 4 "Witness: Endangered Species of North America," through May 14 "Birds of a Feather," extended showing "Hands On Science," extended showing		3 Free Day First Wednesday of each month	4 "Buccellati: Artistry in Gemstones & Gold" exhibit opens 	5 PLANETARIUM SKY SHOWS on weekdays at 2 p.m.	6 Astronomy Day, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. indoors/ 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. outdoors (Planetarium) Appalachian Puppetry, 1 p.m. (Traditional Arts)
7	8 MEMBERS please bring your membership card when you visit the Academy	9 LASERIUM SHOWS Thursday-Sunday, evenings, call 750-7138	10 Members Open House, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. (Member's event)		12 SCIENCE IN ACTION General programs Sun.-Fri. at 11 a.m. Children's programs Sat. at 12:30 & 3 p.m.; this month's topic is a celebration of <i>Islands</i> .	13 Maidu Indian Basketry, 1 p.m. (Traditional Arts) 
14 "Witness: Endangered Species of North America" exhibit closes 	15	16	17 PENGUIN FEEDINGS are at 11:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. every day	18 Elizabeth Marshall Thomas, 8 p.m. (Conversations at the Herbst Theatre)	19	20 French Songs, 1 p.m. (Traditional Arts)
	22 PLANETARIUM SKY SHOWS on weekends at 11 a.m., and at noon, 1, 2, 3 and 4 p.m.	23 Origins of Life, 7:30 p.m. (Planetarium Lecture)	24	25	26	27 FISH ROUNABOUT closed for repairs until summer 1995
28 Lily Cai — Chinese Dance, 1 p.m. (Young Audiences)	29	30	31 DOLPHIN FEEDINGS are at 10:30 a.m., and 12:30, 2:30 and 4:30 p.m. every day	PERMANENT EXHIBITS The Touch Tidepool is temporarily closed due to Roundabout renovation. A special portable tidepool with user-friendly animals, video and microscope will be open daily from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. (to 3 p.m., weekends).		

JUNE DATES TO REMEMBER

- Jun. 10 - Tomorrow's Table, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. (Rietz Food Technology Symposium)
Jun. 10 - Festival of Fragrance Day
Jun. 12-15 - Planetarium closed for sky show change

UPCOMING MEMBERS MEETINGS

- Jun. 14 - Gems & Jewels, with Larry French ("Buccellati" exhibit).
Jul. 12 - Dancing to the Fossil Record, with Ray Troll & Brad Matsen
Aug. 9 - Coral Reefs of the Western Pacific, with Gary Williams of IZ&G



The Academy includes the Natural History Museum, Steinhart Aquarium and Morrison Planetarium. Open every day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. July 4-Labor Day we're open until 7 p.m.

VISITOR SERVICES

Academy Information: 415-750-7145
Academy Store: 750-7410
Admissions: 750-7159
Aquarium: 750-7247
Biodiversity Center: 750-7361
Development Office: 750-7216
Docent Tours: 750-7155
Education Office: 750-7100
Group Information: 750-7043
Job Hotline: 750-7333
Laserium: 750-7138
Lectures: 750-7128
Library: 750-7102
Membership Office: 750-7111
Planetarium: 750-7141
Planned Giving: 750-7216
Security: 750-7000
Switchboard: 221-5100
Travel: 750-7348
Volunteer Services: 750-7154
Weekend Information: 750-7375

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San Francisco, CA 94118

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San Francisco

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PLANETARIUM'S B. DEAN LECTURE SERIES

Origins of Life / May 23
Quantity _____ x \$2 _____
Total = _____
TOTAL \$ _____

ACADEMY CONVERSATIONS & READINGS AT THE HERBST THEATRE

To order tickets for Elizabeth Marshall Thomas, May 18, please call City Box Office at 392-4400.

RIETZ FOOD TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATION SYMPOSIUM

Tomorrow's Table / Jun 10
Qty/Mem. _____ x \$20 _____ Qty/Nonmem. _____ x \$22 _____
Total = _____
TOTAL \$ _____

GIFT MEMBERSHIP

I wish to give a gift membership to: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____

☐ \$50 Family/Grandparent ☐ \$40 Individual ☐ \$35 Dual Senior ☐ \$30 Senior/Student

DONATIONS

I would like to support the Academy with a donation. \$ _____

TOTAL PAYMENT ENCLOSED

\$ _____

PAYMENT METHOD

(Check one) ☐ Check ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

Credit card charges gladly accepted over \$10.

Card# _____

Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: C.A.S. and mail with this coupon form to:

Membership Office, Ticket Services
California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA 94118
Daytime Phone _____

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No refunds/exchanges.